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PROGRAMME QUESTIONS AND OTHER MATTERS

UNITED NATIONS RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Summary

The biennium 1991-1992 saw a marked expansion in the research programme of the Institute. Research under 11 programme areas was conducted in 67 countries. Several programmes are now nearing completion, and there has been a significant increase in the number of publications. To promote dissemination of research findings and dialogue among policy makers, researchers and practitioners, the Institute organized an increased number of workshops and conferences. While contributions to the core budget of the Institute have remained fairly stable, there has been a considerable increase in project funding.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The present report covers the activities of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) in 1991 and 1992. It is submitted to the Commission for Social Development in accordance with the terms of reference set out in the Secretary-General's bulletin (ST/SGB/126) of 1 August 1963, in which it is stipulated that the Board of the Insitute should, inter alia, submit regularly to the Commission "a progress report on the work of the Institute".

2. Over the past two years, the work of the Institute has assumed a global dimension of unprecedented proportions with research, under 11 programme areas, being carried out in 67 countries. Several research programmes are now entering their final phases. They include: sustainable development through people's participation in resource management; social dynamics of deforestation in developing countries; population dynamics, environmental change and development processes; ethnic conflict and development; political violence and social movements; refugees, returnees and local society; socio-economic and political impact of production, trade and use of illicit narcotic drugs; and patterns of consumption: qualitative indicators of development. Fieldwork under these programmes has generally been completed and many draft reports have been submitted. Research on two programmes - one dealing with crisis, adjustment and social change in Africa and Latin America, the other with women, environment and population - is at an interim stage, while case-studies under the programme on participation and changes in property relations in communist and post-communist societies have recently commenced.

3. With several projects in the environment field drawing to a close, a number of new projects have begun. Research under the programme on sustainable development through people's participation in resource management was extended via a subproject on collective initiatives and sustainable development involving, initially, a case-study in Zimbabwe. Work under the programme on social dynamics of deforestation in developing countries was expanded following the incorporation of two new subprojects on deforestation in West Africa and the impact of agricultural expansion on forest resources in developing countries. Detailed research proposals on urban poverty and urban environments, on the social and environmental impact of national parks and protected areas in developing countries, on social and political dimensions of environmental programmes and projects, and on collective initiatives and sustainable development have been drawn up and submitted to donors. The work of the Institute in the environment field has attracted the attention of a number of development agencies, and it increasingly finds itself being approached by international agencies to undertake research on specific issues.

4. In total, 16 international conferences and workshops were held during the past two years. Three events in particular were of major importance. In March 1991, the Institute organized with the University of Zimbabwe a symposium on mass voluntary return of refugees in Africa to their country of origin. The following month, it co-sponsored with the United Nations Development Programme and the Government of Morocco a conference on recent developments in the field of social indicators. In April 1992, a conference, organized jointly with the Foundation for International Studies of the University of Malta, was held on the social dimensions of environment and sustainable development. There has been a steady increase in the number of publications and many more manuscripts are in the printing pipeline. During the past two years, the Institute has

published 13 books and 19 discussion papers, and dissemination of research results has been further institutionalized. This has been reflected in the increased number of requests for UNRISD publications from all over the world. Journals are now regularly publishing reviews of UNRISD publications, and news bulletins on UNRISD activities are now fed into the mass media networks. These developments have clearly served to raise the international profile of the Institute.

5. In October 1991, an independent evaluation of the work of the Institute was carried out by two professors appointed by the Swedish Agency for Research Cooperation with Developing Countries (SAREC), which is its largest donor. The report praised the Institute for the quality of its work, the topicality of its research agenda, and for having built up a global research network. It also urged that new and existing donors increase core funding for the Institute. The SAREC report suggested that the Institute should further explore the linkages between its different research programmes. This suggestion has been taken up by Institute staff who have begun work on defining a new medium-term research agenda. It is apparent that several of the existing and proposed research programmes of the Institute constitute subthemes of a broader macrotheme, namely, the social dimensions of global restructuring or "globalization". The latter refers to processes of economic, political and cultural change which operate on an international scale, or policy approaches which enjoy broad international consensus. These include, for example, economic adjustment and liberalization, democratization, nationalism and environmentalism. The work of the Institute over the next two to four years is likely to concentrate to a greater degree on the social dimensions of these different processes.

6. Developments on the financial front have been extremely mixed. On the positive side, the Institute was able to broaden its base of support for project funding with new contributors such as the Agence de coopération culturelle et technique of France, the Commission of the European Communities, the Swedish International Development Authority, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the World Wide Fund for Nature. Moreover, following its positive evaluation of the Institute, SAREC decided to increase its three-year contribution to the Institute's core budget. On the negative side, overall contributions to the core budget were reduced. This was largely a result of the decision of the Government of Finland to reduce support due to a serious economic crisis. The decline in contributions to the core budget has come at a particularly unfortunate time. During the coming 18 months, UNRISD research programmes are expected to produce approximately 120 monographs and discussion papers, with limited resources to process them. Staff time is being increasingly diverted from research coordination and basic administrative tasks towards editing and publishing manuscripts. This situation also threatens to delay the commencement of new research programmes once current programmes terminate. In short, the capacity and resources of the Institute are now overstretched. If not remedied, this situation will affect the calibre of UNRISD output.

7. Having built up, over nearly 30 years, an extensive global research network and considerable in-house expertise, UNRISD is uniquely placed to take a leading role in the field of social development research. The world is in the midst of a social crisis of unprecedented proportions, not only in terms of the numbers of people affected, but also the range and intensity of the social problems facing humankind. In recent years, it would seem that the attention of policy makers has been diverted away from pressing social problems towards

issues associated with economic and political restructuring. It is time for social development to assume the place it merits on the policy agenda. While the Institute can make a distinctive contribution in this field, its potential to do so can only be realized if greater support is received from the international community.

I. PROGRESS IN RESEARCH

A. Environment, sustainable development and social change

8. The programme seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of the social dimensions of environmental change in developing countries.

1. Sustainable development through people's participation in resource management

9. This programme was developed to investigate how people react to environmental stress, how their activities can contribute to an alleviation of environmental problems, and what can be done to support their efforts. The fieldwork, begun in 1990 and now complete, was carried out in several African, Asian and Latin American countries. Case-study reports should be available in final form by the end of 1992. A synthesis and discussion of conclusions of the research programme will be prepared by mid-1993. The studies point to the importance of local efforts and highlight the range of situations in which local input is crucial to sustainable development. The studies also demonstrate that a number of external factors can work to limit the options which are available to local people as they respond to environmental pressure, reducing their ability to cope with environmental decline.

(a) Current studies

10. The final report by a Ghanaian scholar on the study of local farmer management systems in Ghana is based on a year's fieldwork in three villages. It shows that what is commonly termed "indigenous environmental knowledge" involves a very active process of experimentation with different management techniques in response to changing ecological circumstances. The policy implications are that environmental management research must involve two-way communication, with national and international research centres learning from - as well as teaching - farmers at the local level.

11. The draft report on the structural factors affecting people's participation in conservation projects in the Sahel, completed by a consultant from Norway, argues that people's participation in environmental projects largely depends on the confidence they have in the authority systems and individuals that projects collaborate with and operate through. Consequently, projects should take account of the institutions or persons that beneficiaries trust when it comes to arriving at fair overall land management decisions. Projects should also clear up any confusion with regard to authority structures and distribution of responsibilities and investigate how decisions on land use and related activities are made in practice.

12. A study of traditional fisheries management in Marovo Lagoon, Solomon Islands, completed in early 1992, reveals that current changes in the area are testing the viability of its traditional resource management system. Local communities, however, are actively involved in the negotiation of rules

governing not only their own resource extraction but also resource exploitation by outsiders. The study argues that some form of community management based on customary marine tenure is the best option for the management of lagoon and near-shore marine resources.

13. A study of pastoral land tenure in seven African countries (Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Sudan, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania) is being carried out in cooperation with the International Institute for Environment and Development. The country studies analyse national policies and the legal framework affecting pastoralists, as well as the impact of development activities on the welfare of pastoral people. They focus on the environmental impact of pastoralism and compare pastoral ecosystems with those of alternative production systems. The reasons for the alienation and conflicts with outsiders that characterize many pastoral systems are also discussed. An overview report, analysing the findings of the studies and drawing policy conclusions, is under preparation.

14. A series of case-studies of collective environmental actions to protect or rehabilitate the natural resource base and defend livelihoods is currently being edited for publication. The studies, which refer to the struggles and innovative practices of local groups in seven regions of the world, reveal the need for "empowering" local populations whose livelihoods are threatened by environmental change. Self-organization, the first important step in this process, can not only lead to material betterment, but can also oblige State agencies to acknowledge the claims of hitherto "invisible" groups.

15. Two completed chapters of the volume on the Indian environment and the environmental movement, by two Indian scholars, argue that the unequal nature of resource flows characteristic of Indian economic development has resulted in conflicts over natural resources. These have typically involved unequal antagonists, with the groups protesting environmental destruction less powerful and less well financed than those supporting logging, large dams or other environmentally damaging projects. The last three chapters will examine mechanisms which may help ameliorate these conflicts, and put forward a policy framework for different sectors, taking into account both the need for development and for equity in resource distribution.

(b) <u>New research and other activities</u>

16. Research under this programme was extended in early 1992, through a subproject on collective initiatives for sustainable development, which seeks to contribute to an understanding of how the potential impact of collective initiatives to rehabilitate the environment varies in the context of different social, economic and political structures. The subproject commenced with a case-study of Zimbabwe, with fieldwork conducted during 1992. A draft report is expected by summer 1993. UNRISD is currently seeking additional funding to expand the number of country case-studies.

17. UNRISD and the Institute of Latin American Studies of the University of London co-hosted a two-day workshop in November 1991 on environmental social movements in Latin America and Europe. The event, which brought together some 150 activists and scholars from numerous countries, provided an opportunity for representatives of grassroots organizations to self-evaluate their experiences and for specialists to interpret these from a theoretical perspective. Seven papers presented the experiences of environmental social movements in specific countries (Brazil, Colombia, Germany, Mexico, Spain, United Kingdom

of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela) and two took Latin America as their unit of analysis. Several papers are being revised for publication.

18. Four discussion papers were published within the programme in the biennium. An edited overview volume on issues involved in the analysis of participation in sustainable development was published by a commercial publisher. The edited volume on collective environmental actions will be brought out by a commercial publisher.

2. Social dynamics of deforestation in developing countries

19. The research programme on the social dynamics of deforestation in developing countries is concerned with analysing how deforestation processes are generated in different ecological and socio-economic contexts and how they affect the livelihood of different social groups. Particular attention is paid to collective and individual strategies developed by those whose interests are threatened, as well as to understanding the strategies of broader interest groups and the role of public policy in shaping the course of events. During 1992 the programme has expanded and now has three components.

(a) The social dynamics of deforestation: initial studies

20. A central component comprised case-studies of Brazil, Central America, Nepal and the United Republic of Tanzania. Thematic studies were also commissioned on the following topics: land tenure and deforestation; environmental costs and benefits of deforestation; biodiversity and human welfare; forestry investment; national parks and livelihood issues; and people's participation in forestry management. Draft case-study reports and a number of thematic papers were discussed in July 1991 at a workshop held in Kenya. Key findings are outlined below.

21. Brazil. Case-studies of the States of Rondônia and Pará, carried out under the direction of the coordinator of the Programme of Research and Conservation of Wetlands in Brazil, University of São Paulo, demonstrate how rapid deforestation and related environmental degradation were associated with the livelihood requirements of low-income social groups, as well as with the quest for profit by other groups. Rural inequalities, poverty and economic crisis elsewhere in Brazilian society played important roles in deforestation. So too have government land settlement policies, infrastructure development, tax and credit incentives for export crop production and cattle-raising, inflation and speculation. The loss of access to land and forest resources among small producers has been common, frequently leading to escalating violence. The livelihood and cultures of certain Indian groups have been seriously threatened despite their attempts to resist land invasions and to seek wider support. The report argues that the Government of Brazil has no clear strategy to deal with deforestation since it has provided incentives to promote forest clearance yet it has also established protected areas. Several of the issues dealt with in the study are addressed in a discussion paper.

22. Central America. The study, prepared by a consultant based in Nicaragua, with contributions from researchers in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, outlines the linkages between deforestation and the colonization of agrarian frontier areas, the cattle "boom" of the 1960s and 1970s, the development of road and rail networks, population growth and the disintegration of traditional resource management systems. Case-studies reveal how deforestation has led to increasing pauperization and out-migration, social differentiation,

conflict, and greater workloads for women and children, while protected area, reforestation and agroforestry schemes have been limited in terms of both environmental protection and human welfare. Case-studies from Guatemala and Honduras reveal the importance of strong forms of grassroots organization and leadership, protest and the need to construct alliances in order to influence the policy process and arrest deforestation. The report stresses the need for greater participation of people affected by deforestation and conservation schemes, improved access to land, security of tenure for weaker groups, a more favourable or coherent macro-policy environment and reforms in North-South relations.

23. Nepal. Carried out by the Agricultural Projects Services Centre (APROSC), Kathmandu, this study details the socio-economic and environmental processes of deforestation in the hill and plain regions. It found that the existing pattern of unequal landholding, high population growth, migration patterns and land settlement (particularly in the plains), proliferation of administrative and urban centres, ill-conceived development programmes and recent political liberalization have contributed to forest degradation. Scarce fuel wood, fodder and timber are becoming highly commercialized, frequently putting economic pressure on lower income groups. The study indicates that growing institutional, technical and financial support within the community forestry programme has helped to promote tree planting as well as fuel switching and saving.

24. United Republic of Tanzania. Studies were carried out under the direction of a professor at the Institute of Resource Assessment, University of Dar es Salaam. One study of an area in the western Usambaras found that local people responded to increasing pressure on scarce land and forest resources in various positive ways. A second study in Rufiji district found that rapid deforestation occurred primarily as a result of lucrative prices for timber and charcoal in Dar es Salaam. A third study in Mufundi district examined the implications for deforestation and local subsistence provisioning of State investment in a large paper mill. Despite a large increase in the number of people migrating to the area in search of employment, the area was not deforested. Intensive cultivation practices were adopted, and yields and incomes had increased. Some farmers had also planted small woodlots. To guarantee future pulp supplies, the management of the mill had established large forest plantations on partially idle lands. This has also contributed to supplying local fuel needs as well as providing additional employment.

25. A draft overview report of the studies argues that the institutional reforms and policy measures applied to protect and better manage forests in developing countries have been largely ineffective. This is in part because they failed to provide alternative sources of income and employment for displaced peasants and often left many social groups more vulnerable. Technical solutions to deforestation are only one element in what are essentially political issues. Land tenure, public policies, market forces, population changes, ecological conditions, and broader national and international socio-economic and political systems all contribute to shape deforestation processes and their social consequences. The report concludes that solutions must be sought at local levels taking into account local limitations such as soil, topography, markets and social systems, as well as prospects regarding the best use of a given forest area. Other key factors are active grassroots participation, mobilization, and collective bargaining vis-à-vis other social groups and the State. In addition, forming alliances with other sympathetic social groups and acquiring outside moral, political, legal or financial support are extremely important.

(b) Social dimensions of deforestation in French-speaking West Africa

26. A subproject has been launched in Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire to assess the changes in levels of living, employment and incomes of different social groups most affected by deforestation processes. It will analyse individual and collective strategies to protect livelihoods, and the social origins and content of those public policies most influencing deforestation processes. Major thematic studies have been set up in Burkina Faso, Guinea and Mali, involving an analysis of the measures taken by local communities to cope with deforestation, public forestry policies and the reactions of different groups, and the impact of forestry and reafforestation programmes on the standard of living and employment in rural areas. Research is also planned in Congo, Gabon and Zaire.

(c) Agricultural expansion and tropical forests

27. The Institute has commenced preparatory work for research on the impact of agricultural expansion on the sustainable management of tropical forests. The project is being carried out jointly with the World Wide Fund for Nature. Its principal objectives are to analyse the factors leading to the clearance of tropical forests for agricultural use and to examine both technical and policy approaches to reduce the pressures on forests.

3. Women, environment and population

28. This programme, carried out in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund, examines the social impact of environmental degradation at the community level, emphasizing in particular the effects on the workload and livelihoods of women and, especially, population variables such as health and nutrition. Fieldwork has been conducted in communities in Kenya, Malaysia and Mexico. With the exception of Kenya, field data collection is largely complete and the work of analysis and interpretation has begun. By the end of 1992 reports on all the country studies and a synthesis essay will be complete. Subject to funding, it is intended to undertake an additional case-study in Morocco.

29. The study sites in Kenya, Malaysia and Mexico represent different points on a spectrum of local resource dependency. The most heavily resource-dependent communities are in Malaysia, in the tropical rain forest in the state of Sarawak. The research team is drawn from the Faculties of Social and Environmental Sciences, Sabah Campus, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, and headed by a researcher from the Asia and Pacific Development Centre, Kuala Lumpur. It has been studying community livelihoods of the various ethnic groups living in the Limbang river basin where commercial logging is rapidly clearing large parts of the forest. The team has also studied settlement patterns and degrees of environmental disturbance in the Tawau river basin in neighbouring Sabah, where commercial agriculture is more developed and the town at the mouth of the river is completely integrated into the regional cash economy.

30. The Kenya study is being carried out by a multidisciplinary team under the coordination of a professor from Jomo Kenyatta University College of Agriculture and Technology. The fieldwork is being conducted in three ecologically diverse sublocations in Embu District on the semi-arid slopes of Mount Kenya. A major concern is to explore the effects of strong seasonality factors on health and weight among different household members. As such, several rounds

of data collection will be necessary. For this reason, the Kenyan fieldwork will, exceptionally, continue into the third quarter of 1992.

31. In Mexico, research is being conducted at Xochimilco, on the periphery of Mexico City, by a team from El Colegio de México. In this pre-Columbian settlement, livelihood was previously based entirely on intensive agriculture. Incorporation within the boundary of Mexico City, however, now means that two thirds of the population derive income from non-agricultural activities. While dependency on the natural resource base is limited, the population is strongly affected by an environmental problem typical of large population concentrations, namely, inadequate human waste disposal. The research team is studying the consequences for the local population of living in circumstances of severe water pollution.

32. In April 1992, the project held a workshop to discuss the first findings of the research. Although the research is at an interim stage, certain preliminary findings emerged at the workshop. The Kenya study presented some qualitative data on local perceptions, which were invariably of decline in the quality and availability of local resources. In the Mexican study, the researchers have documented ill health to a quite pervasive degree. People's ill health arises despite a surprisingly high level of observance of basic hygiene by women in the sample households. The conclusion would seem to be that, with such a high concentration of ambient pathogens, no amount of preventive action can protect the population completely. The Malaysian study found pollution to be a predominant feature in the Tawau area due to a rapidly growing population and inadequate water and sanitation infrastructure. In the other study site, the Limbang river basin, the local inhabitants are excluded from obtaining logging or forest use concessions. This represents a devastating loss of livelihood for the upstream hunting and gathering communities. The gender aspects of these developments have yet to be described, but the data point very clearly to the fact that the livelihood options of women remain restricted to subsistence reliance on (increasingly restricted) forest resources much more than is the case for men.

4. Population dynamics, environmental change and development processes: lessons from developing countries

33. This research programme, carried out jointly with the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, aims at analysing the complex linkages between population, environment and development processes. During the past year, in-depth case-studies have been carried out in Costa Rica, Pakistan and Uganda. In each country two or three major ecological zones were chosen and, within each zone, researchers selected two communities that were comparable in terms of certain population and environmental variables. These situations at the local level have also been analysed in the context of broader national, regional and international settings. Case-study reports will be revised and edited for publication by late 1992. UNRISD project staff are preparing a final synthesis report summarizing the principal findings of the case-studies.

34. The Costa Rican study was carried out by two researchers from German universities. Preliminary research findings suggest that resource use systems have been strongly influenced by market forces and government policies as well as structural factors such as land tenure. Population dynamics appear to have played a marginal role. Livelihood constraints tended to be resolved through out-migration and off-farm employment rather than overexploiting the natural resource base. In areas with a long settlement history peasant farmers

evolved fairly sustainable resource management systems. Their capacity to do so, however, was closely correlated with access to sufficient land and support services.

35. In Pakistan, research was carried out by scholars from the World Conservation Union, the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, and Enterprise and Development Consulting. The report indicates that, despite the increased discussion at the national level about the problems of population growth and environmental degradation, people at the local level do not consider these to be critical issues. Local concerns have centred principally on subsistence provisioning. In some cases, labour migration has become a predominant strategy. The research highlights the phenomenon of "deresponsibilization", whereby individuals and communities look increasingly to Government and aid agencies to resolve problems associated with environmental degradation instead of drawing on their own resources and energies.

36. The Ugandan study, carried out by researchers from General Agriculture and Forestry Consultants Limited at Kampala, examined the situation of five districts. The study observed that there was no consistent relationship between population density and the quality of resource management in the different study sites. The behaviour of local communities towards the environment in all sites was conditioned by values and attitudes surrounding resource availability and access, as well as by government policies and market forces.

5. Conference on the social dimensions of environment and sustainable development

37. This conference, organized by UNRISD and the Foundation for International Studies of the University of Malta, was held at Valletta, Malta, from 22 to 25 April 1992. It brought together 80 participants, including policy makers, researchers, grassroots activists, and representatives of international and donor organizations from 31 countries. The conference proceedings highlighted the dramatic social consequences which derive from environmental change: increasing pauperization of communities that rely on natural resources; the breakdown of local livelihood systems; the displacement of people from the land; growing social polarization and inequality; and increased levels of conflict between different social groups. There was a general consensus that such problems, coupled with ongoing environmental destruction, suggest a need for an alternative vision of development that challenges the dominant paradigm which emphasizes the supremacy of markets, the retreat of the State from economic activity and social welfare provisioning, and the homogenization of culture and technological systems.

38. The conference highlighted the central role of collective action and environmental movements in transforming patterns of resource allocation and use and influencing the policy process. Development strategies should progressively transfer responsibility, resources and power to local communities. Several speakers stressed the need for a "two-way" interaction between development agencies and local communities. This was necessary to ensure the adaptation of traditional systems of resource management to enhance the livelihood base of local communities. It would also permit planners to draw upon traditional knowledge, management and organizational capacities, and take account of local structures and conditions. A recurrent theme of the conference concerned the relationship between processes of environmental change and different types of property regimes and tenure systems. Several papers examined the linkages between processes of privatization and nationalization of natural

resources and environmental and social degradation. Reforms of property regimes involving a more equal distribution of resources, greater security of tenure for local natural resource users and respect of traditional or customary rights were shown to be almost a prerequisite for successful environmental rehabilitation and for ensuring secure livelihoods.

39. The gender aspects of environmental problems received considerable attention. There was little disagreement that in most cases women bear the greatest costs of environmental deterioration, but the form that these burdens assume varies in different contexts. Remedial measures should address their specific concerns, such as rights to property and improved access to natural resources. Such measures should also improve their knowledge base and provide them with training and education. This will not only improve the living conditions of women but also those of the entire family unit.

40. Important issues were raised concerning the linkage between population and environment. Several speakers stressed that there is no simplistic correlation between population growth and environmental degradation. The effect of population on environmental degradation cannot be isolated from the effects of other social and economic factors which accelerate environmental destruction. In the urban context, the specific problem that was brought to the fore concerned the dual phenomenon of "invisibility" and illegality associated with large numbers of urban dwellers in developing countries. Hence the problems of urban poverty and urban environmental degradation worsen as Governments refuse to provide for people who do not exist on their official records and who lack power and influence.

41. Certain specific recommendations emerged from the conference. It was emphasized, for example, that development projects should be more supportive of women and should encourage their greater participation in the design and implementation of environmental protection schemes. It was shown that, while population policies aimed at curbing population size can play an important role in protecting the environment, a more comprehensive approach was required which emphasizes social development and a more equitable distribution of resources such as land. In the process of project design, it was repeatedly emphasized that greater account should be taken of local knowledge, cultural perceptions, livelihood and property rights. Moreover, projects should have longer timeframes, greater flexibility in defining goals and methods, be less reliant on ad hoc interventions and use a more process-oriented approach. The main insights and recommendations of the conference will be published in a concise overview report which will be distributed widely.

B. Crisis, adjustment and social change

42. The programme was initiated in 1990 to provide an opportunity for comparative research on longer-term socio-economic and political implications of economic recession and restructuring in Africa and Latin America. It complements the work of other international organizations, which have usually been more concerned with evaluating the macroeconomic efficacy of particular reform measures and the impact of these measures on welfare. The Institute first commissioned research on macro- and micro-level changes in economic strategies and social organization in Chile, Jamaica, Nigeria and Zambia.

1. Current studies

43. In the case of Chile, the project is now coming to a close. An analysis and interpretation of the authoritarian neo-liberal experiment of 1973-1990

has been prepared by Consultores SUR, of Santiago. The final report is of uncommon interest both to policy makers and to social scientists and members of non-governmental organizations concerned with adjustment-related issues. Often put forward as a model to be followed by countries still mired in recession and debt, Chile has emerged from a period of extremely painful economic restructuring with a competitive export-oriented economy and relatively high rates of growth. In the political sphere, the country has also undergone a successful transition from military to civilian rule. The study charts the history of this experience and explores the structural changes which accompanied it. After review and a final revision of the text, the report will be copublished in Spanish by SUR and UNRISD. The relevance of the book in the wider debate on the nature of "successful" adjustment strategies would also seem clearly to justify commercial publication in English. Study of the political economy of the Chilean experience was complemented with a seminar held in Santiago during late July 1991 to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of available social statistics. Co-sponsored by the Chilean office of the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences, the National Statistical Institute and UNRISD, the seminar provided an unusual opportunity for dialogue among people of varying political and professional persuasions. Seminar papers on these topics, preceded by a summary of discussions, have been published in a book entitled La realidad en cifras: Estadísticas sociales.

44. Work is under way on three subprojects in Jamaica, coordinated by the Consortium Graduate School of Social Sciences of the University of the West Indies, at Kingston. The first involves an assessment of the extent to which the Jamaican Labour Force Survey currently captures major transformations in the labour market, and an exploration of alternative proposals for improving measurement of the economic activity of households and individuals. The second examines the impact of crisis and restructuring on the livelihood options of small farmers oriented towards the internal market; and the third centres on a qualitative study of the changing economic strategies and social composition of the Jamaican middle class.

45. In Nigeria, fieldwork is being concluded on nine case-studies undertaken by a group of researchers from several universities and institutes and coordinated at the Centre for Social and Economic Research, Ahmadu Bello University, at Zaria. Research in three case-studies involves an examination of coping strategies and changes in social organization of groups in the informal sector. Two other studies examine emerging trends in the social composition and values of youth in higher institutions of learning, and of unemployed graduates and school leavers. The remaining four studies deal with formal entrepreneurs, peasant farmers and middle-class groups. Final research reports on the nine studies and an overview report are expected by the end of 1992. A discussion paper, entitled "Limits to labour absorption: conceptual and historical background to adjustment in Nigeria's urban informal sector", has been published. It evaluates the responses of informal sector operators to changes in macroeconomic policies in the last two decades.

46. Fieldwork is in progress on seven subprojects in Zambia, undertaken by researchers at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zambia, at Lusaka. Two examine coping strategies and structural change among groups in the informal sector, and two others the adjustment experiences of farmers. The remaining three studies are concerned with informalization processes in the work status and income-creating activities of urban industrial workers, with youth in educational and skills training programmes, and with middle-class professionals. Final research reports and a revised overview

report which charts important developments in Zambia's crisis and various attempts at economic restructuring, as well as their impact on society, should be available by the end of 1992. In addition, a report is being prepared on Zambia's economic and social statistics which should also be available by that time.

47. Under this programme, UNRISD has copublished with the Chr. Michelsen Institute and the Scandinavian Institute of African Studies a book entitled Authoritarianism, Democracy and Adjustment: the Politics of Economic Reform in Africa.

2. New research and other activities

48. As current studies draw to a close in 1992, new research projects are beginning in Bolivia, Ghana, Mexico and the United Republic of Tanzania. An analysis of the Ghanaian experience is especially useful, since that country is - like Chile - so often cited as a model of successful adjustment. This study, scheduled for completion in May 1993, will be prepared by a Ghanaian scholar based at the Department of African Studies of Wayne State University, in the United States. In the case of Mexico, various forms of research and dialogue, undertaken by economists associated with the Latin American Institute for Transnational Studies, will underlie a broad-ranging evaluation of the socio-economic and political implications of crisis and adjustment. At the same time, an expert on Mexican labour and another specializing in research on the business sector have been commissioned to write monographs on the changing economic and political strategies, social composition and life chances of each of those groups. Three subprojects will examine macroeconomic, institutional and social aspects of restructuring in rural areas. The entire project is to be completed by December 1993. Studies in the United Republic of Tanzania, which began in May 1992, under the direction of a group of researchers at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences of the University of Dar es Salaam, seek to understand trends in informalization of the national economy, changes in urban-rural linkages, and the process of class formation in the business sector. These issues are being examined in three subprojects, expected to be completed by April 1993.

49. Programme coordinators are laying the groundwork for an international seminar, scheduled for the spring of 1993, at which the principal researchers involved in all UNRISD country studies on crisis, adjustment and social change will present papers. These and specially commissioned essays are to form the bases for a final, comparative analysis of the socio-economic and political implications of recession and restructuring in Africa and Latin America.

C. Participation and changes in property relations in communist and post-communist societies

50. This programme is concerned with changes in economic, workplace and associational participation arising in the context of market-oriented economic reforms and changes in property rights and ownership in communist and post-communist societies. In late 1990, research was begun on a part-time basis in four countries: China, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland. A draft report on China is now available, and two books on Czechoslovakia and Hungary have been published. Modest funding has recently been obtained to undertake in-depth research in the three Eastern European countries, while research in China will continue for a further two years.

51. China. The final report presenting the findings of the study of the rise of civil society in the context of economic reform in China has been submitted. The study was carried out jointly by a research team from the Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Social Sciences of China and two scholars from the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, and the School of Development Studies, University of East Anglia, in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The research site was Xiaoshan City in the suburbs of Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province. Since 1978, when the reform process began, Chinese society has become highly differentiated. A large number of social organizations have sprung up which are situated between party or government organizations and enterprises. Active in all spheres of politics, economics and social life, they reflect the coexistence of the new (market) and the old (planning) economic system. The report analyses a number of aspects of these new social organizations, concluding that the new forms of social organization comprise only embryonic elements of what is referred to as "civil society" in Western literature.

52. Eastern Europe. Research in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland will have both a macro- and micro-level component. The former will analyse the social side of the reform process by examining schemes intended to encourage a wide ownership of productive capital, the welfare implications of privatization and marketization, and the impact of changing patterns of enterprise ownership on gender relations. At the macro level, the research will map out the expected social consequences of the new policies on the basis of the analyses and statistics provided by international financial institutions which have substantially influenced the objectives and instruments of macro-economic management reforms. In each country, teams are being appointed comprising some researchers who previously participated in the project and new members. Three United Kingdom scholars will be involved in the project, as also two scholars from the Institute of Social Studies at The Hague. The preparatory work is being undertaken and the in-depth case-studies will begin in the autumn of 1992.

D. Ethnic conflict and development

53. This programme is concerned with the causes, patterns, processes and consequences of ethnic conflicts and the effectiveness of a range of cultural, political, constitutional and economic policies to resolve or manage such conflicts. Preliminary research findings were discussed at a workshop held at Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, in June 1991. Most of the 15 case-studies that make up this project have now been completed. An interim overview report that presents preliminary findings is now available. The spread of ethnic violence in Eastern Europe and the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the resurgence of xenophobia in Western Europe directed against ethnic minorities demonstrate the ongoing power of ethnicity and ethnic identities as mobilizing principles. Yet several of the case-studies indicate that ethnicity should not be interpreted as something permanent that simply comes to the fore when the reins that hold it in check are loosened. Rather, ethnicities are "constructed", "invented" and "imagined" under particular circumstances and for specific reasons and objectives. It is also often assumed that behind an ethnic conflict there is an ethnic "problem" and that therefore there is a "solution". It is apparent, however, that in certain situations conflict resolution may not be possible and that conflict management is required. When applied to ethnic conflicts, the concepts of conflict resolution and management must deal not only with techniques of negotiation, bargaining, mediation and so forth, but with the fundamental underlying issues. Hence, the purpose of resolving or managing conflict situations should not be simply to restore

social equilibrium and political stability but to address the issues of freedom, equality, dignity and opportunity which underpin many ethnic conflicts.

1. Completed case-studies

54. Burundi. This study, carried out by a scholar from the University of Florida, examines the social and political factors that have sustained a recurring pattern of ethnic violence between the Tutsi and Hutu populations in Burundi. It discusses the role of violence in the restructuring of ethnic identities and in imposing constraints on the political bargaining process. Recent attempts at democratization are said to offer possibilities for peaceful coexistence and a redefinition of the concept of majority rule in which electoral outcomes would reflect individual political preferences that transcend ethnic identities.

55. Ethiopia and the Sudan. This study by a professor of African studies at the University of Crete looks at the complex ways in which regional and ethnic identities shape the character of conflict in the Horn of Africa. Inequalities in access to power, economic opportunities and resource endowments provide the context for understanding the structure and pattern of ethnic conflict. Foreign intervention also plays a key role in influencing the direction of the conflict as various movements seek allies from neighbouring countries and among the superpowers with global strategic interests. Most ethnic and regional movements, including those that advocate armed struggle, support policies that call for restructuring of the ethnic inequalities embedded in the post-colonial State systems rather than for secession.

56. Fiji. Ethnic politics in Fiji have been fraught with tensions in recent years following the military intervention in 1986 that removed from power the first elected multi-ethnic Government. The military acted to preserve the primacy of the indigenous Fijians in the political system at the expense of the Indian immigrants, who constitute half of the population. This study, by the same author as that of the Guyana manuscript, examines the character of ethnic relations between Fijians and Indians, the events leading to the military intervention, and the implications for State, society and development.

57. Guatemala. Ethnic identities have undergone dramatic changes in recent years in Guatemala, within the framework of a protracted civil war and the return to civilian Government after decades of military dictatorship. Drawing on extensive fieldwork, a Guatemalan anthropologist from the Centre national de la recherche scientifique, in Paris, examines the question of ethnicity in civil violence and the particular role of religious change as a factor in the definition of ethnic conflicts. He argues that these changes are bringing about a new religious-ethnic identity in the social and cultural space left open within the highly polarized political spectrum.

58. Guyana. This study by a professor of political science at the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago examines the historical process of how the ethnic conflict between Africans and Indians in Guyana developed. The author analyses the dynamics of ethnic conflict between these two groups. The integrating mechanisms provided by a common education system, a common language and the creole culture evidently proved inadequate to counter the appeal of the ethnic factor. Instead, the country witnessed a slow descent to the ethnicization of the political system, the social institutions and economic policies.

This contributed to escalation of violence, intensification of repression and collapse of the economy.

59. India. Given the complexity of the ethnic situation in India, this study coordinated by a researcher at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi, focuses mainly on communal riots. It is based on survey work and intensive interviews, and concentrates particularly on the controversy surrounding the Babri Masjid temple in Ayodhya. The authors reconstruct and interpret the events related to intercommunal rioting and also set them within the wider political context of the country.

60. Kurdistan. A well-known expert on the Kurdish question has completed a general overview report which provides historical background and details on the situation of the Kurds in Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey. The study examines their problems as a minority that is oppressed and discriminated against, within the international geopolitical setting. The report concludes with a discussion of the rights of minorities as recognized by international bodies and the inherent problems involved in guaranteeing those rights.

61. Lebanon. In this study, a staff member of the Institut de recherche et de consultation, Beirut, analyses the relations between modern State structures and communal pluralism within a historical framework. The study provides an overview of the Lebanese conflict, identifies the main actors and the principal issues of controversy, particularly in relation to economic development, and assesses the possibilities of the recent peace accord.

62. Malaysia. This study by a Malaysian political scientist, focuses on relations between Malays and Chinese, ethnicity as a politically mobilizing force, the issues of language and education as factors of intergroup conflict, and mechanisms for tension reduction. The author shows that a policy tending to reduce economic disparities between the two major ethnic groups in the country has not eliminated ethnic tensions between them. She suggests that, while ethnic conflicts have been managed fairly successfully in the past, there is little evidence to justify optimism about the future.

63. Nigeria. After the Biafran war, Nigeria has experimented with new constitutional arrangements and territorial administrative structures to deal with potentially disruptive ethnic tensions. A professor at the University of Nigeria is analysing interethnic boundary demarcation and ethnic conflicts, using extensive questionnaire surveys and documentary sources. He shows how many of these conflicts are directly related to the land question and concludes that land scarcity and land hunger have made land an issue of interethnic disputes and violence.

64. Senegal. In contrast to other multi-ethnic countries, Senegal has not had major ethnic conflicts since independence. This issue is analysed by a member of the Institut fondamental de l'Afrique noire, Dakar, who looks at the factors accounting for national integration, the process of linguistic unification, the role of Islam and other processes of political and social change. He also analyses the separatist tendencies in the Casamance region and discusses the ethnic aspects of the conflict between Senegalese and Mauritanians.

65. Yugoslavia. This study, which was carried out by a number of researchers from various universities when Yugoslavia was still a unified federal state,

examines the historical factors that led to the formation of the Yugoslav federation and the institutionalization of communist rule; the cultural, linguistic and religious issues that shape the identities of the various groups and the nature of economic and social inequalities among them; the place of Yugoslavia in the geo-ethnic structure of the region; the constitutional and political developments that led to the demise of the federation; as well as the international aspects of the crisis.

2. Case-studies in progress

66. Belgium. This study by two professors at the Université de Louvain-la-Neuve analyses the linguistic-political conflict between Flemings and Walloons in its historical and structural aspects, with particular emphasis on the questions of language policy, education, regional autonomy and economic development. A recent demographic shift has taken place in Belgium due to the presence of foreign immigrants who now account for almost 10 per cent of the total population. The authors consider that this development has complicated the ethno-linguistic picture in the country.

67. Pakistan. Emphasis is placed on the political expression of economically based grievances as manifested in ethnic riots and other forms of confrontation. The research team, headed by a Pakistani sociologist, is examining relations between the Mohajirs and other ethnic groups within Sindh province. Other situations, such as the Punjab and the Orangi Pilot Project, will also be looked at. The authors are not too optimistic about the future. Barring a major rethinking and the necessary initiative, Sindh, and by implication the rest of the country, is on course for disaster.

68. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Since this study was undertaken, the Soviet Union has ceased to exist and ethnic conflicts have reshaped the new political structures of the successor States. The principal researcher has since been appointed to public office in the Russian Federation. As originally outlined, this study would consist of an analysis of the contemporary problems between nationalities in the former Soviet Union (1990-1991). Given the events of the past year, however, the content and timing of this study are being reconsidered.

69. As part of the comparative study of ethnic conflicts, a look is also being taken at the re-emergence of racism and anti-semitism in several countries in Europe and North America and their ideological underpinnings, a problem which some observers consider to contain explosive potential.

3. Publications

70. Some of the preliminary papers on the case-studies that were presented at the mid-project meeting, held at Dubrovnik in June 1991, are now available for distribution. The overview of the Kurdish situation has been copublished with a commercial publisher in French; the case-study on Guyana has been published as a UNRISD discussion paper. Some additional inputs in the form of analytical and thematic papers have also been circulated. The project coordinator is currently preparing a first draft of the comparative synthesis based on the case-studies and other materials.

E. Political violence and social movements

71. The main purpose of this project, which commenced in late 1990, is to understand the problem of political violence with reference to a new framework

of analysis which treats violence as a kind of discourse of power with its own dynamic. As such, the phenomenon of political violence is probed from an "interior" as well as an exterior perspective. By linking internal and external factors it becomes possible to see how the sheer momentum of violence may create a situation which does not respond easily to changes in the external situation, or may respond in ways which are not anticipated. Draft papers of the eight case-studies (Colombia, Italy, Lebanon, Northern Ireland, Peru, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka) were presented at the second workshop of the project held at Geneva in May 1992. The project coordinator also presented a paper which provided a theoretical introduction on the subject. This paper and subsequent discussion identified certain alternative models by means of which to examine and assess violence under two sets of circumstances: first, when States, including democracies, generate violence or are predisposed to it; and second, when violence creates its own internal dynamic, its own structures, and what can be called "symbolic capital".

72. Two specific models are used, an inversionary discourse model and an exchange model. The movement serving as the type case for the inversionary-discourse model is Sendero luminoso in Peru. By applying the discourse model to Sendero it may be seen how symbolic capital is created out of violent events, and how a language is formed with its own codes, out of which a discourse community is organized around networks engaged in violent activities. At the opposite end of the theoretical spectrum is the exchange model. Here violence follows well-understood rules of a game. The aims are instrumental, with reciprocities of power involving violent exchanges over power. Symbolic encounters are of little significance. The type case is guerrilla movements in Colombia. Here outbreaks of violence fluctuate according to coalitional gains and losses. Excepting these extreme type cases all others fall somewhere on the spectrum formed by the inversionary-discourse and exchange models, with the Red Brigades in Italy coming closest to the first and the Basque (ETA) movement in Spain coming closest to the second. The Tamil Tigers in Sri Lanka are more on the inversionary discourse side. The African National Congress in South Africa is on the exchange model side, while the Shia movements in Lebanon are more or less at the centre.

73. Case-study authors are now revising their papers. A scholar from University College, University of London, has recently joined the core research group and will work with the project coordinator in rewriting both the introduction and conclusion, as well as editing manuscripts. The conclusion will be both analytical and practical, the cases suggesting different implications to be drawn from the examination of political violence today. A two-volume work is planned. In addition, a major book, which should be ready for publication in 1993, is currently being prepared by the project coordinator.

F. Refugees, returnees and local society: interaction and development

74. This programme devotes special attention to issues that constitute a link between the situation of refugees or returnees and the long-term development of the area where they arrived or to which they returned. In the past few years activity has focused on two projects. The first deals with the impact of refugees on the living conditions of host populations in Mexico and Zambia. This project drew to some extent on existing research and is now completed. The report on Mexico is currently being processed for publication jointly with the participating Mexican research institutions. The second project focuses on the social and economic situation of refugees who returned home en masse and voluntarily to Chad, Uganda and Zimbabwe. This project is concerned with

a virtually unstudied area, is strongly policy-oriented, and is interested in strengthening the research capacity of local researchers in participating countries.

1. Case-studies

75. Zimbabwe. A research team from the University of Zimbabwe began this collaborative field research in 1989. The study focused on the content and impact of the refugee programme adopted in Zimbabwe before and after independence. The results of this and other studies on mass voluntary return movements were discussed at a three-day international symposium held at Harare in March 1991. The meeting, organized jointly with the University of Zimbabwe, was attended by policy makers, administrators, researchers and practitioners from Europe, North America and several African countries.

76. Chad. A small multidisciplinary research team from the Institut national des sciences humaines, Chad, carried out research in three regions of the country and in the capital and produced two field research reports. The draft country overview report highlights a number of policy-oriented themes, including the social and economic impact made by returnees on the area of their return, the lack of coordination among foreign assistance programmes, and the success of individual programmes financed by foreign non-governmental organizations using a grassroots approach. The draft report on women returnees documents the hard fate of refugee women who fled from Chad, highlighting the differences in their daily situation in exile, depending on the host country they went to. It illustrates how these differences influenced the extent and ease of their reintegration upon their return to Chad. The report also documents the economic, social and psychological impact of the refugee experience on women and how they used this experience upon their return. The report's policy-oriented suggestions for the future are most valuable for other countries as well. An international symposium was held at N'Djamena in February 1992 to present the Chad field research findings. Presentations of experiences from other African countries were given by representatives from Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Rwanda and Sudan. UNRISD plans to copublish the field studies, which are being revised as a result of the symposium, in 1993 in the form of two soft-cover books, one presenting an overview of the country experience, the other focusing on women returnees.

77. Uganda. With support from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, UNRISD has also initiated field research in the West Nile region of Uganda, to which some 350,000 refugees have returned in recent years from the Sudan and Zaire. Research is being carried out by a team of teachers and community development workers who speak the local languages, under the guidance of an anthropologist with many years' experience in the West Nile. The study focuses on the social and economic situation of refugees who returned home from southern Sudan en masse, and on the content and impact of official policies, programmes and operations intended to benefit the returnees and the local people in the areas to which the former returned. The draft report on the field study is expected in late 1992. In September 1992, at the suggestion of the Regional Bureau for Africa of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UNRISD and the Uganda team leader organized at Addis Ababa a three-day international symposium for the Horn of Africa, preceded and followed by one-day researchers' workshops. Experts from countries in the Horn and elsewhere presented papers, drawing on their experience with the reintegration of returning refugees and with the reconstruction of their home areas.

2. Other activities

78. As part of the comparative study on refugees and returnees, a number of outside specialists were requested to submit papers on specific themes. Two draft papers on refugee flows from south-west Sudan, and the exodus of migrant workers and "alien" communities from countries of West Africa and Western Asia have been received and are being processed for publication as discussion papers. Also, in October 1991, UNRISD organized at Geneva a meeting of experts on the issue of the potential impact of democratization on refugee flows from one African country to another. A record of the discussion was communicated to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

G. Socio-economic and political impact of production, trade and use of illicit narcotic drugs

79. Co-sponsored by UNRISD and the United Nations University, this project examines the socio-economic and political consequences of both the illicit drug trade and drug control policy instruments. The first phase - preparation of a background study and an annotated bibliography - was completed in June 1991. The resulting Handbook of Research on the Illicit Drug Traffic: Socio-economic and Political Consequences was published by Greenwood Press in September 1991. UNRISD has published two discussion papers based on the report of the first phase. The second phase consists of specific country studies and a comparative cross-country analysis. Drafts of all but one study have been completed. In cooperation with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, an authors' workshop was held at Vienna in August 1992 to discuss and refine the drafts. Two publishing houses have already expressed interest in the studies, which are outlined below.

80. Bolivia. Research carried out by a United Kingdom scholar has included extensive interviews with officials from the Governments of Bolivia and the United States, coca growers, representatives of the coca federations, independent researchers from Bolivian universities, non-governmental organizations and private research centres. Several principal themes include: the rise of coca; from coca to cocaine; Bolivia's coca-cocaine economy; indirect effects of the coca-cocaine industry: the costs and benefits; and militarization of drugs.

81. Colombia. This study, carried out by a Colombian scholar based in the United States, argues that the existence of the illegal drug industry in Colombia constitutes a major obstacle to national economic democratization as it promotes violence, concentrates income and wealth, feeds the underground economy, opposes some socially progressive reforms and weakens the State. Unfortunately, the elimination of the illegal drug profits depends on factors outside the control of the Government of Colombia. Since drug legalization and control is very unlikely to take place in the consuming countries, the only way to curtail those profits lies in either a demand shift toward other drugs produced and distributed by non-Colombians, or the growth of an import-substituting synthetic industry in the consumer countries manufacturing cheaper synthetic cocaine. Such developments, however, are not very likely, and the capacity of the Colombian State to promote democratic capitalism will remain highly constrained by the operations of the illegal drug industry.

82. Lao People's Democratic Republic. The report, by a United States scholar based in Thailand, contains sections on illicit drug production, trafficking, refining, addiction and abuse, as well as policies to reduce supply and

demand. The study reveals that opium production and consumption is firmly embedded in the social and cultural fabric of the hill tribe people, whose alternative economic prospects are so limited that both supply and demand reduction efforts have been largely ineffective. Nothing less than an integrated approach to society, economy and culture will likely produce effective results. In addition to integrated rural development, other approaches and policies should be considered, including payments for not growing opium and the involvement of local people in nature tourism.

83. Mexico. The Mexican study, carried out by a Mexican researcher from El Colegio de México, focuses on the effects of the Mexican drug control programme on the country's economy, polity and society. The study should fill an important gap in the literature, since there is no single work that compiles, let alone analyses, the raw data on drug control such as the number of hectares of marijuana and poppy fields destroyed, resources spent on each programme, amounts of marijuana, cocaine or heroin seized, and the number of violators of anti-drug laws.

84. Myanmar. The Myanmar study, conducted by a scholar from Payap University in Thailand, indicates that the experience in Myanmar, formerly Burma, is quite different from that in neighbouring Thailand. The United Kingdom colonial administration in Burma instituted a dual policy whereby opium was essentially forbidden for Burmans but not for Shans and minorities in the north of the country. In Thailand, at least in theory, a single approach was followed. With the escalation of the crisis in Myanmar in recent years the dual system lapsed. Heroin use is now widespread and AIDS has become a major problem. The Government says it is reducing acreage by destroying fields, but opponents say the planting has tripled with the result that there is more being produced than before.

85. Pakistan and Afghanistan. Research on Pakistan, by a German scholar, indicates that supply suppression policies apparently have had considerable success, but the flow of heroin continues. While poppy production has declined sharply as a result of government policies, trafficking through Pakistan (primarily from Afghanistan) continues unabated. National and bilateral support for law enforcement has been considerable, but this support has not been able to control the trafficking of hercin. Research on Afghanistan, by the same scholar, has been hampered by the political situation and disparate quantitative databases.

86. Peru. The author of the study, a scholar from the University of Albany, New York, has contributed an integrated analysis of the country's drug problems by considering the larger social, economic and political contexts. This approach highlights the fallacy of single-variable analyses of the complex drug problem, especially when considering "solutions". The author stresses that illegal drugs contribute to political instability in Peru but do not cause it.

87. Thailand. The study on Thailand, carried out by a scholar from Chiang Mai University, indicates that there has been a recent and rather rapid increase in heroin addiction among the northern hill tribes that followed on the "success" of opium eradication there. This is a repeat experience of what occurred in Bangkok in 1959, when the use of heroin spread after the Government rather abruptly made opium use and cultivation illegal. Opium cultivation, however, endured for several decades due to the remoteness of growing areas and the reluctance to destroy opium poppies when the people had no alternative forms

of employment. More recently, with cash crops becoming increasingly viable, the Government has promoted opium destruction.

88. United States (Kentucky and Tennessee). Work on the draft report, which is being carried out by a United States scholar, is close to completion. Preliminary research has indicated the need to analyse the drug problem in the context of the history and culture of the Appalachian region. The report traces developments from about 1870.

H. Patterns of consumption: qualitative indicators of development

89. The General Assembly, in its resolution 40/179 of 17 December 1985, invited the Institute to participate in a project on patterns of consumption and related socio-economic indicators. In response to this and other United Nations resolutions, UNRISD commissioned four country case-studies, in Côte d'Ivoire, India, Kenya and Morocco, to examine relevant national experiences with the use of qualitative indicators of development. The Institute was further requested to cooperate with the Government of Morocco in convening a meeting of experts to review recent advances in the field of development indicators. This meeting was held at Rabat in April 1991. The final report by the Institute on the four country case-studies was presented to the Statistical Commission of the United Nations at its twenty-sixth session in February 1991. The Commission later expressed its appreciation for the high quality of the report, which examined the strengths and weaknesses of different sources of social data and explored a number of less complex and costly data-gathering methods.

90. During the past year, the Institute's work in the field of social indicators included disseminating the results of the meeting and planning future research. The main conclusions of the meeting are being disseminated through the report entitled "Qualitative indicators and development data: current concerns and priorities". Complete texts of the Rabat papers have been distributed to interested individuals and organizations and their contents have been discussed in a variety of forums, including inter-agency meetings and symposia. UNRISD has also produced an edited volume, to be published in the United States in 1993 by Transaction Publishers, based on the papers presented in Rabat and the results of the four country case-studies carried out under the "patterns of consumption" project.

91. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1991/94 of 26 July 1991, requested the Secretary-General to organize, in close consultation with the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular UNRISD, another high-level meeting of experts with a view to further advancing the work on qualitative indicators of development on the basis of the outcome of the first high-level meeting and the necessary further research. The resolution also invites interested donor countries and multilateral agencies to make voluntary contributions to UNRISD for holding such a meeting. To this end, the Institute is now discussing both the content of the meeting and methods of collaboration with potential donors. Among the numerous pressing problems affecting the utility of social indicators in developing countries, the poor quality of underlying data appeared to require attention most urgently. The forthcoming meeting is therefore likely to focus on innovative and cost-effective strategies and methods for collecting social data. The project coordinators have also participated in a number of meetings with outside specialists to explore ways of developing a better technique or analytical approach for measuring, in a simple but reliable way, improvements in socio-

economic development using existing indicators and data available at the international level.

II. PUBLICATIONS AND DISSEMINATION OF FINDINGS

92. While maintaining its standards of high quality, the Institute has increased the quantity of publications it produces. Such publications include books copublished with commercial publishers or national research institutes, UNRISD monographs, discussion papers, conference summaries and UNRISD News.

93. Books and monographs. A total of 13 books, listed below, was published over the past two years, either as copublications with commercial publishers and other research institutions or as UNRISD monographs:

- Economic Adjustment under the Sandinistas: Policy Reform, Food Security and Livelihood in Nicaragua, by Peter Utting (1991)

- An End to Hunger? The Social Origins of Food Strategies, by Solon L. Barraclough (London, ZED Books, 1991)

- Handbook of Research on the Illicit Drug Traffic: Socioeconomic and Political Consequences, by LaMond Tullis (Westport, Connecticut, Greenwood Press, 1991)

- The IMF and the South: The Social Impact of Crisis and Adjustment, Dharam Ghai, ed. (London, ZED Books, 1991)

- Authoritarianism, Democracy, and Adjustment: The Politics of Economic Reform in Africa, Peter Gibbon, Yusuf Bangura and Arve Ofstad, eds. (Uppsala, The Scandinavian Institute of African Studies, 1992)

- Czechoslovakia: Which Way to the Market?, by J. Ann Zammit and Dharam Ghai (1992)

- Economic Reform and Third-World Socialism: A Political Economy of Food Policy in Post-Revolutionary Societies, by Peter Utting (London, Macmillan, 1992)

- Globalization and the Developing World: An Essay on the International Dimensions of Development in the Post-Cold-War Era, by Keith Griffin and Azizur Rahman Khan (1992)

- Grassroots Environmental Action: People's Participation in Sustainable Development, Dharam Ghai and Jessica M. Vivian, eds. (London, Routledge, 1992)

- Le malheur kurde, by Gérard Chaliand (Paris, Editions du Seuil, 1992)

- Populations et gouvernements face aux problèmes alimentaires: regards sur des zones de l'Afrique de l'Ouest, Marie-Angélique Savané, ed. (1992)

- La realidad en cifras: Estadísticas sociales, Sergio Gomez, ed. (Santiago, FLACSO, 1992)

- Reestructuración económica y subsistencia rural: El maíz y la crisis de los ochenta, Cynthia Hewitt de Alcantara, ed. (Mexico City, El Colegio de México, 1992)

94. Other publications. A total of 19 discussion papers was published by the Institute during the past two years. Several conference summaries were also published, including "Qualitative indicators and development data: current concerns and priorities" (the French version - "Indicateurs qualitatifs et données sur le développement: préoccupations actuelles et priorités"), and "Workshop on Social Dynamics of Deforestation in Developing Countries: summary of workshop proceedings". UNRISD News provides regular updates on research programme results, the major findings and recommendations of UNRISD conferences, and summaries about new publications. Some 9,000 copies of the newsletter are circulated around the world to scholars, activists, policy makers and others concerned with social issues. Due to its continuing success, the newsletter is now published in French and Spanish as well as English.

95. With the assistance of students participating in the UNRISD Internship Programme, the existing reference centre collection has been reclassified, and information about holdings is being computerized. Subscriptions to periodicals have been reviewed and new subscriptions corresponding to current research programme themes have been made. Specialized clippings files, organized by research programme themes and regions, are systematically updated by interns.

96. Over the past two years, dissemination of research results has been further institutionalized and expanded, with encouraging results. In order to continue to make discussion papers freely available to readers in developing countries, the Institute instigated a charging system for orders of four or more from readers in developed countries. Libraries in developed countries can now subscribe to the UNRISD discussion paper series in order to automatically receive all discussion papers, while libraries in developing countries can receive the series at no charge. University libraries in over 15 countries will receive information about the discussion paper series in order to promote new subscriptions.

III. FINANCIAL SITUATION

97. Although part of the United Nations system, UNRISD relies wholly on voluntary contributions for financing its activities. In 1991 and 1992, the governments of Denmark, Finland, France, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland contributed to the general funds of the Institute. Two important developments affected the finances of the Institute during the past year. The Swedish Agency for Research and Cooperation with Developing Countries, on behalf of the Government of Sweden, was able to increase its annual contribution by 11 per cent. This amount was pledged for a three-year period. On the down side, however, economic difficulties in Finland obliged the Government to reduce its 1992 contribution by one third. Overall general-purpose contributions declined by 13 per cent in 1992. This shortfall was made up by an increase in special-purpose contributions for project funding. Total project funds more than doubled, increasing from US$ 435,360 to US$ 1,008,624. Total revenue in nominal United States dollars rose by 10 per cent to US$ 2,590,778.